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THE DISPATCH FOUNDED 1884.

WHOLE NUMBER 18,128.

RICHMOND, VA., FRIDAY, JANUARY 7, 1910.

THE WEATHER TO-DAY—SNOW.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

## WANT SIMPLICITY IN GOVERNMENT

Committees From Virginia Cities Ask Changes in Constitution.

## GREATER ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY

Proposed Amendments to Be Optional With Each City to Adopt or Reject as Majority of Qualified Voters May Determine.

Four resolutions looking to changes in the form of city government in Virginia were adopted yesterday by a special committee, composed of the delegates from each city of importance in the State, and recommended to a general conference of delegates from the various municipal and commercial bodies to meet at the Jefferson Hotel this morning at 10 o'clock.

The first and most important of the resolutions has reference to the possible introduction of the commission system, and looks to a change in the Constitution of the State of Virginia so as to eliminate from the chapter on the government of cities the clause making it mandatory to have a two-branch city council, and to divide the city into wards, the two chief obstacles to the general introduction of the commission.

By resolution all of the recommendations of the conference are to be only for such changes as may be optional with the cities themselves to adopt or reject, the idea expressed by a majority of the speakers being that such provision should be made in the State laws as will allow each city to adopt and put into effect that form of government approved by a majority of the qualified voters of the city affected.

**Economy and Efficiency.**

In all the discussion of changes thought to be necessary, there was no word of attack on any city, or on the present official government of any municipality. But the belief was general that the bi-cameral council, with its necessary and inevitable terminable committees, does not lead to economy or efficiency of administration of the business affairs of the municipalities, nor does it fix direct responsibility in a manner that is satisfactory to the taxpayers.

President H. Lee Peters, of the Common Council, represented this city, the other Richmond delegates being conspicuous by their absence.

The following is the text of the more important resolutions, as amended:

**Optional With Each City.**

"Resolved, That the General Assembly be petitioned to take such steps as may be necessary to amend Article 8 of the Constitution of the State in such manner as not to require the establishment of local self-government in cities; provided that any such amendment to the Constitution shall provide that it shall be optional with each city, to be determined by a majority of the qualified voters, whether or not it will change its present form of government."

**An Administrative Board.**

"Resolved, That the next Legislature be petitioned to amend the existing general laws, or to enact such new laws as to permit any city of the first class (which shall be such as may be prescribed by law elect to accept the provisions of said law) to have and establish an administrative board, to be elected by the people of said city, consisting of not more than five members, the same to have charge of all the administrative affairs of such city, including especially all the administrative powers now exercised by the various standing committee and standing boards or commissions, except those now subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by the council; the said law to provide further, that at the option of the several cities accepting the same the mayor or the said cities, respectively, may be a member of the board."

**Reduce Number of Councilmen.**

"Resolved, That the General Assembly be requested to amend section 105 a of the Code so as to reduce the minimum number of Common Councilmen to six and the minimum number of Aldermen to three."

**Legislative Committee.**

"Resolved, That this conference appoint two committees, each to consist of five members, as follows:

(a) A committee to formulate such legislation as may be necessary to carry into effect the resolutions adopted by this conference, looking to the introduction of the commission system by the General Assembly other than legislation as is involved in the amendment of the State Constitution.

(b) A committee to formulate such Constitutional amendments as may be necessary to carry into effect the resolutions adopted by this conference, looking to such amendment.

"Resolved further, That the said committees, respectively, shall not be limited in the scope of their work to the particular resolutions specified in the foregoing resolutions, but may make such further recommendations as may be in substantial conformity with the resolutions adopted by this conference."

**Want Direct Responsibility.**

The morning was given over largely to preliminary discussion and general outlining of the views of the various members, which showed more divergence than might have been expected. Every speaker, however, was of the opinion that the end to be reached in effecting any change in city government is to secure more direct responsibility, greater efficiency and greater economy. Nearly every speaker held to the local option or home rule idea—that any legislation should be so drawn as to provide that the cities themselves, accepted or rejected by the cities themselves, should be taking occasion to criticize the new

## VIRGINIA HOME FOR WARD GIRLS

Generosity of Few Men Assures Success of Project.

## JOHN P. BRANCH IS PRESIDENT

State to Be Asked to Maintain Institution—Plan Is to Buy and Equip Farm Near Richmond—Vigorous Campaign Begun for Contributions.

Virginia is to have a home and industrial school for girls, a meeting yesterday of the executive committee having the matter in charge, it was reported that sufficient amounts have already been secured from only nine founders to assure the establishment of the institution.

The first decision at the first meeting of the committee on December 23, a few friends of the movement were approached on the subject of becoming founders by agreeing to pay \$500 for each foundation. Within a few days the following founders have been secured: John P. Branch, five foundations, \$2,500; P. H. Mayo, two foundations, \$1,000; T. A. Cary, one, \$500; E. G. Leigh, one, \$500; H. L. Cabell, one, \$500; H. E. Baskerville, one, \$500; Joseph E. Willard, one, \$500; M. Patterson, one, \$500; Misses Stewart, one, \$500. Total, \$17,000.

At yesterday's meeting the committee decided to make an active canvass for more founders at \$500 each and also for life members at \$100 each. This canvass must be completed by January 13, when another meeting will be held, and plans will be matured. Each officer and director will be furnished with a subscription list, and those desiring to subscribe are requested to see one of them.

**Put Girls on Farm.**

It is proposed by the directors to raise sufficient funds at once to buy a farm near Richmond, equip it with a competent matron in charge, and offer accommodations for all incorrigible girls in the State between the ages of eight and eighteen, so that they may be placed on this farm, with good surroundings, instead of in jail. They will be kept on the place, and will be given every opportunity, through training and an industrial education, to become useful and self-respecting women.

**When the home is organized, and the movement is well under way, an appeal will be made to the Legislature to place the Virginia Home and Industrial School for Girls on the same footing with the Leake-Peters school. The committee has assurances that if the friends of the movement will show their faith by their works in raising the money to get things started, the State will take hold of the matter and maintain it.**

**Home a Necessity.**

But whether or not legislative action is taken, the officers and directors point out that there exists immediate need for action to meet the present conditions in the numerous juvenile courts, executive officers of law, the State Board of Charities and Corrections, and all philanthropic agencies which are in touch with the actual conditions. The movement is an outgrowth of recognition of the fact that there is now no place in the State for a white girl who is vicious or incorrigible except a common jail. When such a girl comes before the court the judge must either send her to the State reformatory, or, if she is released, she is merely allowed to continue her course, and her opportunity for improvement is minimized by the fact that her incorrigibility is advertised. If placed in such a case, or sent to her, she is charged with the cost of the process of demoralization. Usually, when the term of imprisonment is completed, a confirmed criminal tendency is apparent.

While no provision is made for wayward girls, the State maintains a well-equipped school for incorrigible white boys and a reformatory for colored boys.

**List of Officers.**

The following are the officers of the projected school: John P. Branch, Richmond, president; W. D. Drewry, Petersburg, first vice-president; J. T. Roper, Norfolk, second vice-president; J. W. Craddock, Lynchburg, third vice-president; R. A. Schofield, Danville, fourth vice-president; H. E. Baskerville, Richmond, treasurer; James Buchanan, Richmond, secretary.

**Director—J. T. Roper, Lynchburg; R. O. Egerton, Petersburg; C. T. Lassiter, Petersburg; F. S. Royster, Norfolk; J. W. Williams, Courtland; J. M. Pilcher, Burkeville; W. S. Copeland, Newport News; J. S. Bryan, Richmond; S. P. Waddill, Richmond; Robert Leach, Jr., Richmond; L. T. Christian, Richmond; W. R. Walker, Richmond; Moses Thalmeyer, Richmond; Rev. H. D. C. MacLachlan, Richmond; Rev. J. J. Scherer, Richmond; Rev. G. W. Daniel, Richmond; H. L. Cabell, Richmond; W. S. Forbes, Richmond; E. G. Leigh, Richmond; T. C. Williams, Richmond; C. Hagan, Richmond; H. S. Hutzler, Richmond; P. H. Mayo, Richmond; A. H. Thierman, Richmond.**

**Executive Committee—Rev. G. W. McDaniel, H. L. Cabell, John Stewart Bryan, Robert Leach, Jr., H. E. Baskerville, S. P. Waddill, H. S. Hutzler.**

Valuable Papers Found

## PINCHOT'S LETTER BOMB FOR SENATE

Chief Forester Declares Himself Despite Orders of Taft.

## HE FULLY UPHOLDS COURSE OF GLAVIS

Sustains Criticisms of Secretary Ballinger and Suggests That President Has Made Mistake—Heat of Controversy Is Made Intense by His Outburst.

Washington, D. C., January 6.—In an unexpected manner, the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy was today made doubly intense by the reading in the Senate of a letter addressed by Mr. Pinchot to Senator Dolliver, in which the course adopted by L. R. Glavis, with the assistance of Messrs. Price and Shaw, of the Bureau of Forestry, was warmly approved. In this communication, the chief forester not only upheld the criticisms of Secretary Ballinger, but suggested that the President himself had been mistaken in the facts when he removed Mr. Glavis from the public service.

Mr. Pinchot's letter called Senator Hale to his feet with a severe rebuke to the chief forester for having ignored a recent order by the President, directing that no subordinate officer should give information concerning affairs of the government except to his superior officer.

Preceding this incident, Senator Jones's joint resolution for an investigation of the Interior Department and of the Forestry Bureau was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

The House of Representatives declined for the time to enter upon a discussion of the joint resolution introduced by Mr. Humphrey. The resolution was reported by Chairman Dill, of the Committee on Rules, who asked, for immediate consideration, Representative Livingston, of Georgia, declared that the discussion of the measure would require several days, in view of which Representative Underwood, the acting minority leader, objected, and the resolution went over until to-morrow.

**Causes Sensation.**

The reading in the Senate of Mr. Pinchot's letter caused a sensation. He said that Messrs. Price and Shaw had prepared an official report upon their actions, which he was transmitting to the Secretary of Agriculture.

"This report shows that Messrs. Price and Shaw made public certain information regarding the so-called Cunningham claim for coal lands in Alaska," said Mr. Pinchot. "The effect of the publication was to direct critical public attention to the action of the Interior Department."

It shows that the action of the publication by L. R. Glavis of certain facts concerning these claims after he had been dismissed from office, and that in other ways they endeavored to direct public attention to the imminent danger that the Alaska coal fields, still in government ownership, might pass forever into private hands with little or no compensation to the public."

This information, Mr. Pinchot adds, was of a nature proper to be made public.

After saying that these officials had acted on information they had concerning the danger of the loss of the Alaska coal lands, Mr. Pinchot continued:

"Action through the usual official channels, and finally even an appeal to the President, had resulted (because of what I believe to have been a mistaken impression of the facts) in eliminating from the government service the person of Glavis, the most vigorous defender of the people's interest. Furthermore, the refusal of the Secretary of the Interior to assume responsibility in the cases had left their conduct wholly in the hands of subordinate officers, each of whom was apparently committed in favor of patenting these claims."

**Chose to Take Risk.**

Price and Shaw, he said, deliberately chose to risk their official positions rather than permit what they believed to be the wrongful loss of public property. Having violated a rule of propriety as between the departments, Mr. Pinchot said they deserved a reprimand and had received one.

"Price and Shaw," Mr. Pinchot said, "successfully directed public attention to a national danger."

"Price and Shaw concede that they did transgress propriety," continues Mr. Pinchot. "But measured by the emergency which faced them, by the purity of their motives and the results they accomplished, their breach of propriety seems wellnigh to insignificant."

Mr. Pinchot said he disclaimed any intention or desire to shirk any part of his own legitimate responsibility for what was done by these two subordinates.

While Mr. Pinchot's letter was being read and discussed, the President's message transmitting Attorney-General Vickersham's report upon the Ballinger case was lying on the desk of the Vice-President. Upon the conclusion of the discussion, it was laid before the Senate, but Mr. Vickersham's long report was not read. It was referred to the committee on public lands.

Senator Nelson, chairman of the committee on public lands, has called a meeting of his committee for 10:30 on Saturday morning to consider the several resolutions relating to the investigation of the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy.

Hurry Call for Cabinet

## THOUGH WRECKED BY FLAMES, COLLEGE WORK WILL NOT HALT

Dr. McGuire Gives Assurance That Greater University Shall Rise.

## CITIZENS OFFER FINANCIAL HELP

Resolutions Adopted at Mass-Meeting Urging Officers to Formulate Plan So That Public May Bear Part of Burden—Not Crippled by Disaster.

## Main Facts About Fire

Dr. McGuire gives absolute assurance that University College of Medicine will be rebuilt on greater scale, maintaining its individuality. Citizens call on officers to formulate plan and inform public how it can bear part of financial responsibility.

Student body pledges its loyal support to university.

Financial loss estimated at \$200,000; insurance less than \$50,000.

Class work and lectures proceed to-day as heretofore.

Virginia Hospital Building, though threatened by flames, escaped.

Thirty-three hospital patients removed without harm or injury.

Fire department works twelve hours in ice and cold, its great work saving Virginia Hospital.

Medical College of Virginia, Richmond College, Mechanics' Institute, Memorial Hospital, John Marshall High School and other institutions offer aid to fire-stricken university.

"I find that an institution is much more than an individual—it must get into the habit of looking to the welfare of its friends. The encouragement given us by the citizens of Richmond is much appreciated. Our effort now is to establish a curriculum, and until this is done we cannot say definitely what our plans for the future will be. I can say with assurance, the University College of Medicine will continue to do its work."—Statement by Dr. Stuart McGuire, president of the University College of Medicine, before a mass-meeting of citizens in the Chamber of Commerce yesterday afternoon.

**Offer Sympathy and Help.**

Expressions of sympathy and offers of practical help were made yesterday afternoon in behalf of the University College of Medicine at a mass-meeting in the Chamber of Commerce. The sentiment of the meeting, as well as the statement of Dr. Stuart McGuire, president of the institution, indicate that from the ruins of the building destroyed at the site of the University College of Medicine, the Chamber of Commerce, were represented among those who answered the call of President E. W. Boatwright, of Richmond College, of the day before, of considering what is best to be done to encourage the officers of the college to take immediate steps for rebuilding. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 o'clock, and resulted in the adoption of resolutions, which contain the request that the faculty make its plans and let the citizens know what is lacking to accomplish the required end.

**Financial Loss Serious.**

"We are under the shadow of a great loss," said Dr. Boatwright in calling the citizens to order, "and we are here to express our sympathy for this institution. We know that about \$200,000 in buildings and equipment have been destroyed, and that one of our greatest educational institutions is unable to continue its work as it expected to do. It seems appropriate that Richmond College, which has been so liberally dealt with at the hands of the city, should have issued the call for this meeting."

Dr. Boatwright presented Mayor Richardson, whose remarks hit the keynote of the situation. Reviewing the horrors wrought by the fire, the Mayor read other instances in which the city has rallied to the support of its crippled institutions.

"Our hearts are stirred with sympathy," said Mayor Richardson. "We are gratified that no lives were lost; but we must not forget those who offered the assistance that prevented a toll of human life. Every educational institution in this city, I believe, is open to the University College of Medicine, and the fire was under control, all the patients were returned to the hospital, and it was said last night that none of them will suffer seriously from the shock. An alley about twenty feet wide separates the college from the hospital, but the building, after the flames were under control, was joined by a bridge, and it was at this that streams were aimed when the flames began."

**Great Work by Firemen.**

Stubbornly laboring against odds that more than once threatened to overcome their stoutest efforts, the firemen gradually drove the flames in an opposite direction from the hospital, and within two hours, it was conceded that the fire would not destroy the two structures. Soon after reaching the scene, Chief Joyner rang in the "three axes," bringing almost the entire department to the scene. Until darkness turned to day, and the artificial glare was overcome by the stronger light of nature, the skies for miles made a brilliant glow.

Even with the danger of spreading, eliminated, the blaze burned fiercely in the interior, and the firemen experienced great difficulty in reaching the center of the fire. Water was poured in from every side through windows, and finally, as it overcame by resistance, the fire yielded, and it became a question of how long it would take to conquer the last spark. At 12 o'clock the first engines left, and at 2 o'clock, only two remained.

**A Mass of Wreckage.**

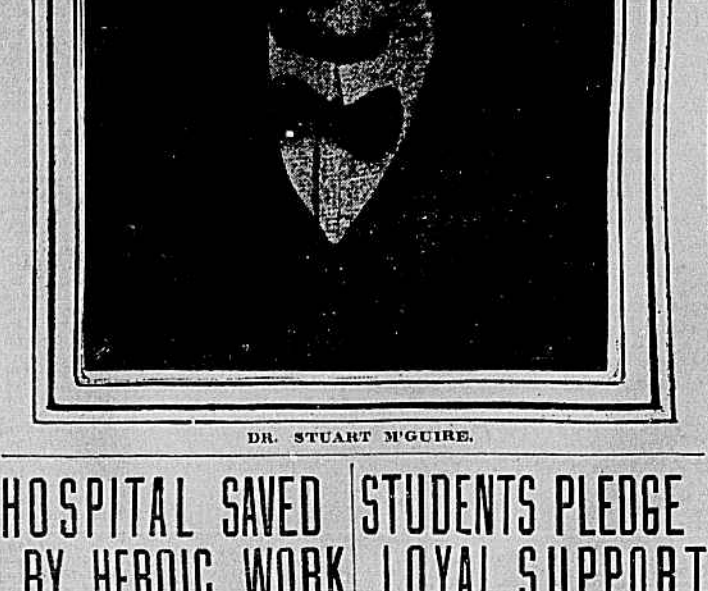
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## GIGANTIC FRAUD CHARGE AGAINST RYAN INTERESTS

They Are Asked to Disgorge Alleged Illegal Profits.

## SUIT IS BROUGHT TO RECOVER LOOT

Action Sensational as Any in "Met" Manipulation—Plaintiffs Sue for Millions Said to Have Been Taken From New York City Railway Company.



DR. STUART MCGUIRE.

## HOSPITAL SAVED BY HEROIC WORK

University College of Medicine Adopt Resolutions Assuring Dr. McGuire That They'll Stand by College.

## LOSS WILL REACH \$200,000 STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT

Patients From the Virginia, Hurriedly Removed, Return Without Suffering.

Despite Disaster, Work in All Departments Will Go On as Usual To-Day.

At 3:50 o'clock yesterday afternoon, twelve hours almost to the minute from the time the first alarm of fire was turned in, Fire Chief Joyner declared the last spark to be out, and weary firemen abandoned a scene of complete destruction at the site of the University College of Medicine. The building, which antedates the Civil war, with its contents, represents an estimated loss of \$200,000; but, according to a statement made by Dr. Stuart McGuire, president of the college, a grander structure will rise in place of the old and the institution will continue its work upon a more comprehensive scale.

Adjoining the Virginia Hospital, the flames, originating when the city was encased in a coating of ice which made travel dangerous for man and beast, spread terror in a neighborhood usually quiet, and endangered the lives of thirty-three patients, all of whom were saved by citizens, nurses and physicians, who joined as a unit in the work of rescue. At 8 o'clock yesterday morning, The Times-Dispatch, in an extra column, told the citizens the details of this most spectacular blaze.

**First Seen by Patient.**

Spontaneous combustion in the laboratory on the third floor is the only solution given of the origin; but even this cannot be explained satisfactorily.

Mrs. Maggie Catto, a patient on the second floor of the hospital, called the attention of Miss Bessie C. Arnold, a night nurse, to the smell of smoke, and she notified Miss Naomi Simmons, the superintendent, and Dr. R. J. McGuire, an internist, that the building next door was ablaze. Dr. Tudor turned in the alarm.

Before the fire engines arrived, the neighborhood was aroused, and patients were being removed to places of safety in nearby dwellings and in the Sheltering Arms Hospital. Later yesterday, after the flames were under control, all the patients were returned to the hospital, and it was said last night that none of them will suffer seriously from the shock. An alley about twenty feet wide separates the college from the hospital, but the building, after the flames were under control, was joined by a bridge, and it was at this that streams were aimed when the flames began.

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Action Sensational as Any in "Met" Manipulation—Plaintiffs Sue for Millions Said to Have Been Taken From New York City Railway Company.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] New York, January 6.—As sensational as any development in the Metropolitan Street Railway manipulation by the Ryan interests is the suit brought in the United States court to recover \$3,737,200, which, it is charged, was taken from the New York City Railway Company without any consideration. The papers have been carefully kept from public gaze in the hope that this money would be refunded without litigation. But efforts to the effect that the company have failed, and the suit will be called on Monday next before Judge Jay.

The directors who are legally asked to refund this large sum are Thomas F. Ryan, the retiring multi-millionaire financier, of Fifth Avenue, Suffern, N. Y., and Oak Ridge, Va., former partner of the late William C. Whitney.

Mortimer L. Schiefel, son of Jacob Schiefel, and member of the banking house of Kuhn, Loeb & Co.

Peter A. B. Widener, multi-millionaire financier, of Philadelphia.

John D. Grimman, contractor and philanthropist of New York City.

Edward J. Berwind, financier, and coal operator and associate of Ryan in the latter's banks and trust companies.

Thomas P. Fowler, railroad president and insurance trustee.

Paul D. Graham, personal counsel to Ryan on the traction firing line.

Herbert H. Vreeland, former president of the Metropolitan system.

Thomas Dolan, financier, of Philadelphia, an associate of Widener.

H. W. Sayre, a minor Metropolitan officer.

**Charge of Conspiracy.**

The charge as made in the complaint is phrased as follows:

"On or shortly prior to February 14, 1902, the defendants and certain of them entered into a combination and conspiracy to appropriate to the use of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company large sums of money out of the capital of the New York City Railway Company, without the Metropolitan Securities Company giving any consideration therefor, in which conspiracy all of the defendants, either at the time or subsequently, joined and participated with full knowledge of the nature and purpose of said conspiracy. Pursuant to said combination and conspiracy and with the purpose of intent aforesaid, the said defendants concocted and consummated the wrongful and illegal scheme hereinbefore described by means of which, under this guise of financing the \$3,000,000 payment to be made by the New York City Railway Company to the Metropolitan Securities Company, they, as directors of the New York City Railway Company, paid over to the Metropolitan Securities Company, and to the Metropolitan Securities Company, large sums of money, amounting in the aggregate to at least \$3,737,200, which were taken out of the capital of the New York City Railway Company and paid over without the Metropolitan Securities Company, or any consideration whatever."

**The Plaintiffs.**

The suit is brought by Adrian H. Joline, former receiver of the New York City Railway Company and present receiver of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, Douglas Robinson, former receiver of the New York City Railway Company and present receiver of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, and William W. Ladd, present receiver of the New York City Railway Company, or any consideration whatever.

**The Penal Code reads:** "A director of a stock corporation, who consents in any vote or act of the directors of such corporation, or any of them by which it is intended to make a dividend except from the surplus profits arising from the business of the corporation, is guilty of a misdemeanor."

Through the inactivity of the public prosecutors this statute has run for all the accused.

The New York City Railway Company once owned and operated two miles of the New York City Railway Company. Its importance comes from the fact that it has been changed with the medium through which unearned dividends were paid on the stock of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company. It guaranteed the \$32,000,000 of Metropolitan stock now held by the New York City Railway Company, and also guaranteed dividends at various rates on all the leased companies of the system before the destruction of the Traction and Gomorrah, as the "Met" and Third Avenue systems are now facetiously called.

On the other hand, the equity action was to force the directors of the Metropolitan Securities Company to make an accounting in respect to the transactions whereby the New York City Railway Company issued its debenture notes to the Metropolitan Securities Company at 100 percent of their face value, and redeemed them from the Metropolitan Securities Company at par. The same man or their "dummies" were directors of both companies.

**Acts Constitute Fraud.**

The alleged conspiracy of the plaintiffs says: "The aforesaid acts of the defendants constitute, in contemplation of law, a fraud upon the rights of all persons and corporations to whom the New York City Railway Company had assumed obligations under the lease as

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